

'BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

OCTOBER, 1995

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 8

Inside

• Andre Short

Also

• Recruiting

• Basketball

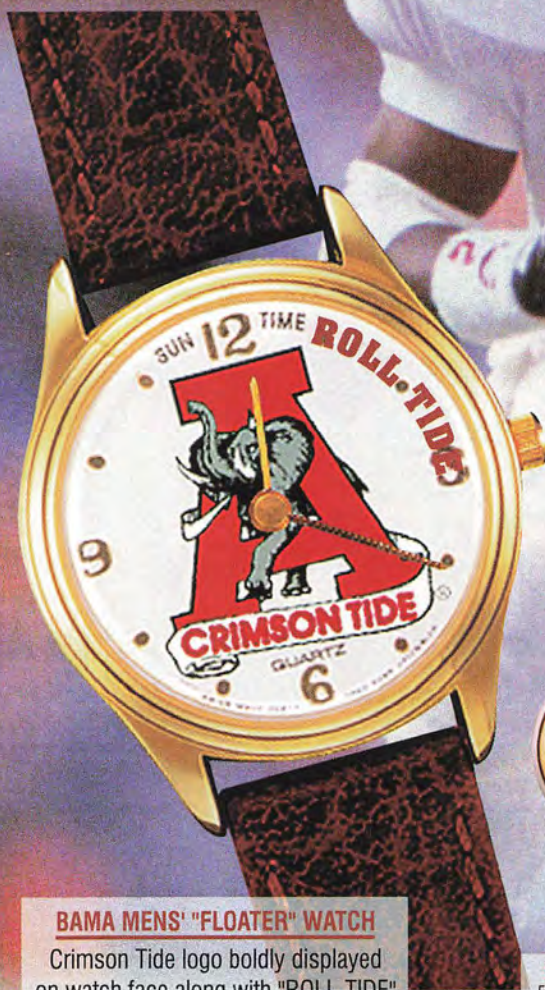
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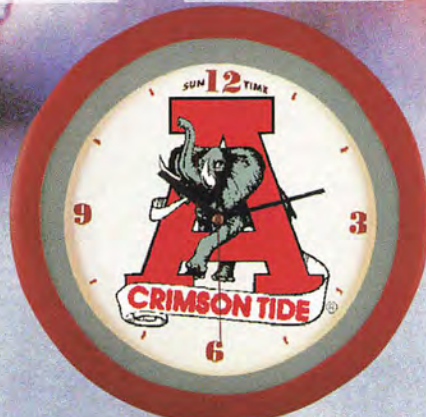
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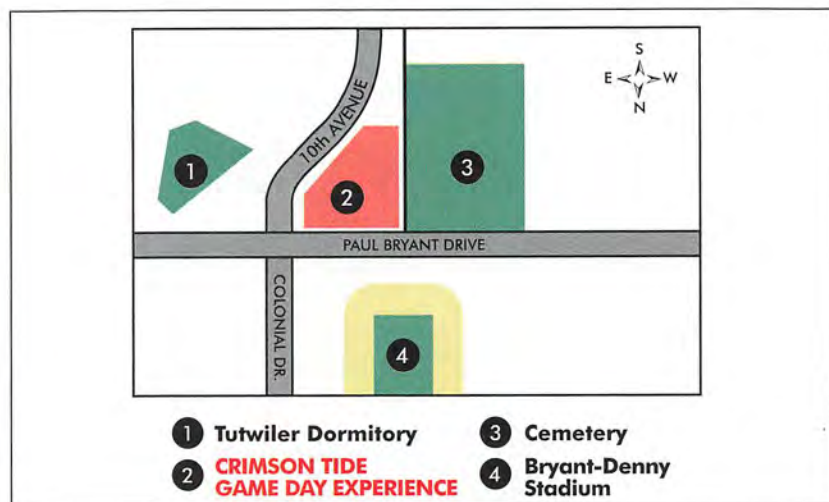


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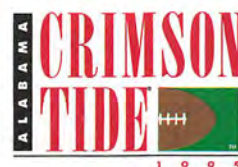
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Editorial & Staff Directory

Publisher: Lynne McNair
Editor: Kirk McNair
Circulation Director: Mary Ellen Palardy
Assistant to the Publisher: Vera Dowdle
Director of Promotions: Julia McNair
Photo Editor: Barry Fikes
Artist: Dan Proctor

Contributing Writers:

John Barnes, Stephen Craig,
Donna Fromme, Louise Ford,
Donald F. Staffo, Charley Thornton,
Andrew Varble II

Contributing Photographers:

Steven Fikes, Spectrum-Southeast,
Butch Dill, University of Alabama

Computer Consultant:

Stephen Bushery, ComSouth

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'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/OCTOBER '95

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Only A Few, But They're Good Men

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Alabama had its smallest recruiting class in memory last winter, only 13 freshmen and one junior college transfer. While most are being redshirted, a handful have already begun to make their way into the Crimson Tide lineup.

by John Barnes

Andre Short:

In The Right Place At The Right Time

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Andre Short was frustrated in his first two seasons, a redshirt year in 1993 and play only on special teams last year. And when he lost his first team job prior to the beginning of the season his head was down. But the strong safety has played well and regained the starting job.

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Part of the fallout of NCAA sanctions against Alabama's football program was the reassignment of Athletics Director Hootie Ingram. When University President Dr. Roger Sayers went looking for an interim replacement he had only one name in mind, and he was able to hire Dr. Glen Tuckett, the retired athletics director from Brigham Young University.

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'96 Expectations Are Lower After Heavy Losses From '95

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Alabama Head Basketball Coach David Hobbs lost practically all of the scoring and rebounding to graduation and (notably) Antonio McDyess' decision to enter the NBA early. This will be a different Tide, one dependent upon talented newcomers.

by Kirk McNair

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Alabama Head Women's Basketball Coach Rick Moody says he loves a challenge, so he should really get a kick out of this season. Bama had very heavy losses from last year's team, including the unexpected loss to injury of All-SEC center Yolanda Watkins. Only one starter returns for Bama.

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Alabama's men's and women's cross country teams both finished among the nation's top 20 last year and both are ranked in the nation's top 20 this year.

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BAMA SCORECARD

NCAA Criticism

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* has a rather limited readership, primarily administrators of colleges and universities. And its sports coverage is more limited than that. However, when the September 8 issue reached Tuscaloosa, the copying machines went to work and the story on athletics received widespread attention.

In an article entitled "U. of Alabama Case Tests NCAA's New Approach," Dr. Rex E. Lee, president of Brigham Young University said he was "extremely disappointed" that the NCAA Infractions Committee rejected summary disposition for Alabama. Dr. Lee, a former U.S. Solicitor General, was chairman of the NCAA committee that proposed summary disposition in 1991. The process was adopted in 1993 in order to resolve rules enforcement cases more quickly and cooperatively. When the Infractions Committee penalized Alabama it marked the first time it had rejected summary disposition, a procedure that had been employed 19 times.

Lee said, "This action takes the heart out of the summary disposition process. Fact finding should be left to the school and the enforcement staff. Unless you have that, summary disposition means very little."

There is no question the Infractions Committee has the authority to reject summary disposition.

Oklahoma law professor Dr. David Swank, who chaired the Infractions Committee, said he agreed with Lee, unless the Infractions Committee "has some significant reason. In this case, we did."

However, as the article points out several times, Swank has not revealed this "evidence" to anyone. And, as the article noted, the Infractions Committee doesn't have to have a reason to "trash" a summary disposition agreement.

Lee said, "The committee should change the facts only if there was damned serious error in the findings. It should not be disregarded by the Infractions Committee willy-nilly."

The article also said that two colleges with cases pending before the NCAA are leery of summary disposition because of the way Alabama's case was handled.

Appeal Made

On September 20, The University of Alabama filed its formal appeal of one finding and two sanctions imposed on the school's football program by the NCAA Infractions Committee. The appeal was made to the NCAA Infractions Appeals Committee. The Infractions Committee has 30 days from that date to make its rebuttal and The University will have 15 days from that for final argument before a hearing

date, which will probably come in early November.

Alabama is challenging the 1995 team being banned from post season play this year and a third year of probation and scholarship reductions in 1996-97. The University is also seeking the removal of a charge of unethical conduct against former Faculty Chairman of Athletics Dr. Tom Jones, who has since resigned.

Dr. Culpepper Clark, The University's acting faculty athletics representative, said The University feels it has a "compelling case" in its appeal.

Alabama is not challenging two findings of wrong-doing related to former Tide football players Gene Jelks, who received improper loans, and Antonio Langham, who signed with an agent prior to playing in 11 football games in 1993. Nor is The University challenging severe penalties of loss of scholarships in 1995 and 1996 and forfeiture of eight games in 1993.

Although the Infractions Appeals Committee had not previously granted significant relief in five cases prior to this year, it recently reduced substantially penalties against the Baylor University basketball program. Southeastern Conference Commissioner Roy Kramer was acting chairman of the Infractions Appeals Committee that reviewed the Baylor case, but he will not be a part of the committee when it hears Alabama's appeal.

Sayers Resigning

In his regular address to the faculty, University President Dr. Rogers Sayers announced that he would resign his post as of August 31, 1996. Sayers had planned for sometime to resign his post, but delayed an announcement because of severe funding cuts to The University by the Alabama State Legislature. The NCAA investigation into Alabama's football program had no bearing on Sayers' decision.

Officials Suspended

In a very rare move, the SEC officiating crew which worked the Alabama-Arkansas was reportedly suspended for one game. Although the conference refused comment on the situation, it was revealed that the crew which had called Arkansas' upset 20-19 win over Bama in Bryant-Denny Stadium was pulled from its next assignment, the Georgia game at Ole Miss.

There were several controversial calls in the Alabama-Arkansas game, notably (from an Alabama standpoint) two of the last three in the game. With the Razorbacks at the Alabama three-yard line and time running out, Arkansas had 12 men on the field. Had the infraction been called, the Hogs would

have faced third and goal from the 18-yard line. From the three, Arkansas did score on a three-yard pass. However, replays show that the receiver trapped the ball, catching it after it had hit the ground, and the call should have been incomplete pass, giving Bama the ball with six seconds to play.

Arkansas had a few legitimate gripes with the officiating, too, including a pass interference call against the Razorbacks that kept an Alabama touchdown drive alive.

We're Number 13

A recent report based on analysis of information field with the U.S. Department of Education shows that in 1993 (the latest year for which information is available), The University of Alabama spent \$20.3 million on its athletics program. That figure was 13th highest in the nation. Florida spent the most, \$27.2 million.

The report pointed out that Alabama was one of about half of the Division I schools in the nation whose athletics department is completely self-supporting. It was also pointed out that in the past five years the athletics department had donated approximately \$2.5 million to the general fund of The University. The report said that Alabama's football program generated approximately 90 per cent of athletics department income and men's basketball approximately 8 per cent, with all other sports combining to bring in 1 per cent.

Long Shots

On January 4, 1955, in Foster Auditorium, Alabama was en route to a 77-55 basketball victory over Frank McGuire's North Carolina team. George Linn pulled down a rebound under the Carolina goal just before the end of the first half. Linn turned and threw the ball downcourt. It hit the backboard and caromed through the net. McGuire marked the spot from where Linn had fired and for many years it was listed as the longest made shot in basketball history, 84 feet, 11 inches.

This year Alabama was hoping for an even longer shot. Antonio McDyess made himself eligible for the NBA draft last spring following his sophomore season and was the second man selected. However, McDyess, a soon-to-be multimillionaire, did not drop out of school and he made sufficient progress to be eligible this year. He also did not hire an agent. And, finally, when classes began in August, McDyess was enrolled at Alabama.

Had the NBA players not certified their union in a vote this month, the owners were promising there would be no NBA season this year. Had that occurred, McDyess was in position to petition the NCAA to regain his

eligibility. Although he had not met the criteria of making an appeal within 30 days of the draft, the extraordinary situation of an NBA lockout, along with the NCAA's concern for student-athletes graduating, would have made the appeal almost automatic.

Alas, Alabama's longest shot continues to be Linn's. The NBA players voted to certify their union and McDyess withdrew from The University. He has said he plans to continue work towards his degree in the off season.

No Guard

A rumor that Coach David Hobbs had added a late signee for the men's basketball program was not totally correct. Bama did sign 6-3 Cleotis Brown from Russell County High in Seale, Alabama. However, Brown did not meet the academic standards for eligibility and will not be joining the team.

Hall Of Famers

All-time Alabama basketball great Leon Douglas has been selected for induction into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

Former Alabama footballer Hal Self was also selected in the Old Timers category, although Self gained as much fame as head coach at Florence State (now the University of North Alabama) as he did for being the quarterback in the Notre Dame box formation Bama employed in his playing career in the 1940s.

Douglas and Self, along with former Auburn stars Harvey Gance and Bo Jackson, longtime Alabama High School Athletic Association Executive Director Bubba Scott, and Jacksonville State football great Jodie Connell, will be inducted at a banquet at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center February 24.

Douglas, a native of Leighton, played on three Alabama teams that won SEC championships under Coach C.M. Newton. He was a two-time All-SEC performer, an All-America and the most valuable player in the SEC as a senior, and was named Amateur Athlete of the Year by the Alabama Sports Writers Association. He was also inducted into The University's Jason Honor Society. He played professionally in the NBA and in Europe.

Self, a native of Decatur, was the Tide's quarterback (primarily a blocker) in 1941-42 and 1944-45 (Bama did not have a team in 1943 because of World War II and played in the four major bowls: Rose, Sugar, Orange and Cotton. He was winner of the Jacobs Award as the best blocker in the SEC in 1945. He coached at Florence for 21 years before becoming athletics director in 1969.

Bryant Award Winner

Robert "Bud" Moore, a former Alabama football player and assistant coach, was honored this year as recipient of the Paul W. Bryant Alumni-Athlete Award. The award is

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presented annually to a former Crimson Tide athlete by The University's National Alumni Association. Criteria for selection include character, contributions to society, professional achievement and service to humanity.

Moore, a native of Jasper, played football for Alabama in 1958-60. The 1958 team was the first under Bryant. He coached running backs for the Tide 1972-74 before becoming head coach at Kansas.

Past recipients of the award are John Croyle, Young Boozer, Charlie Boswell, Fred Sington, Holt and Tom Rast, Hoyt "Wu" Winslett and Bart Starr.

Scholarship Winner

Jeff Foshee, a walk-on linebacker, fullback and tight end for Alabama who graduated last May, has been selected as winner of a \$5,000 scholarship to continue his education in pursuit of a career in education. The scholarship is awarded by the College Football Association and Hitachi.

Gymnasts Honored

The Alabama gymnastics team has been recognized by the National Association of College Gymnastics Coaches for producing one of the top 20 grade point averages in the nation last year. Alabama ranked fourth among teams at least year's NCAA Championships and 17th overall with a team GPA of 3.241. Individually, four members of the Tide's 1995 NCAA runner-up team were named Scholastic All-America. They were Meredith Willard (4.0 GPA), Merritt Booth (3.615), Danielle McAdams (3.668) and Marna Neubauer (3.555).

Soccer Honoree

Sophomore midfielder Ashley Kirkland was recently named to *Soccer America's* Women's Team of the Week. Kirkland had two goals and one assist in Alabama's 3-1

upset of 14th-ranked Texas A&M. It was Texas A&M's first home loss in five years.

Pate Expands

The Jerry Pate National Intercollegiate Golf Tournament, sponsored by Alabama and played at Shoal Creek in Birmingham, is expanding to a three-day event.

The defending champion Stanford team will not return this year, which means the two biggest names of last year's tournament will be absent. Tiger Woods, a freshman at Stanford last year, won the individual championship. And PGA superstar John Daly, who was serving as volunteer coach of the Arkansas golf team, will not return.

The tournament will be October 22-24. In addition to host Alabama, there will be 11 of the 12 teams who played for last year's NCAA title, including champion Oklahoma State. Other teams are Texas, Florida State, Arizona, Florida, UNLV, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Georgia Tech, and Auburn.

This year the teams will play together so fans can follow a team. In the past the pairings were determined by scores.

Golf Addition

Allan MacDonald, a transfer from Central Alabama Community College, has joined the Alabama men's golf team. MacDonald won nine junior collegiate tournaments and was the 1991 St. Andrews Boys champion, the 1992 British Boys champion and the 1993 Belgian Youth champion.

Shootout

Alabama fans who are golfers are invited to compete in the Bama Golf Shootout, an event hosted by the Alabama men's and women's golf teams. This year's event will be at the Country Club of Tuscaloosa November 16, the day before the Alabama-Auburn football game. Registration will be at 10 a.m. and there will be a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

Each four-person team will have a member of either the Tide men's or women's team or athletic staff member added to its squad for the scramble event. Cost is \$500 per team (\$125 per person), some tax deductible. For more information, or to register, call Women's Coach Betty Palmer or Men's Coach Dick Spybey at (205) 348-6161.

African Success

Freshman swimmer Rani Elwani won the 50-, 100- and 200-meter freestyle events at the African Games. Her times rank her 21st in the world in the 50, 25th in the 100 and 26th in the 200. She also won the silver medals in the 100 backstroke and 100 butterfly.

Reunion

The Alabama golf teams are having a reunion for all former players the weekend of November 10-11. Former men's and women's players will participate in a golf tournament, a reception, and a tailgate party prior to the Alabama-Mississippi State football game.

Only A Few, But They're Good Men

by John Barnes

Class of 13 freshmen has five already helping, others ticketed for future

Last winter, 13 high school seniors and one junior college transfer signed grants-in-aid to play football for The University of Alabama. If the number seems abnormally low, it is. Alabama's abundance at the linebacker position, coupled with impending sanctions from the NCAA, dictated the signing of the smallest freshman class in memory. Part of the deal with the NCAA investigative staff was that the Tide would sign only 14 instead of the 18 or so Alabama's staff had planned to ink.

What the Tide lacked in quantity, it made up for in quality. The class is loaded with speed and talent. It has been said that Tide Head Coach Gene Stallings doesn't recruit position players, he recruits athletes. Aside from linemen, this has generally been the case since Stallings' arrival in 1990. High

school quarterbacks find themselves playing split end, all-state linebackers end up at safety, etc.

Welcoming the group in August, the coaches found themselves in a unique position. Accustomed to large freshman classes with players at every position, Bama coaches Jeff Rouzie and Homer Smith were relegated to spectators as the group was void of quarterbacks and linebackers. With all the coaches, managers, trainers and doctors on hand, the freshmen found themselves outnumbered.

"It was weird," said frosh kick returner Michael Vaughn. "We really didn't have a lot to do since we had no quarterbacks. We just kind of went through the motions and waited for the varsity to show up."

Of the 13 freshmen on the Tide roster, most are ticketed to be redshirted, including running back Shaun Alexander, the Tide's most celebrated signee. The state of Kentucky's player of the year, the talented Alexander could no doubt crack the playing rotation at tailback and make an immediate contribution. With tailbacks Dennis Riddle, Brian Steger, Curtis Alexander and Montoya Madden all battling for playing time,

Alexander could probably get a few snaps here and there, maybe even establish himself as the savior of Bama's struggling ground game. However, with more serious scholarship reductions looming on the horizon, Bama coaches will do the prudent thing and save Alexander for next season.

However, there are a number of true freshmen who have made, and will continue to make, contributions to Bama's 1995 campaign.

Few would deny that the Tide is struggling thus far. Come-from-behind victories over Vanderbilt and Southern Miss, coupled with a home loss to unranked Arkansas, have Tide fans, players and coaches looking for answers.

Five true freshmen have seen playing time thus far. They are Michael Feagin, Michael Vaughn, Fernando Bryant, Kelvin Sigler and Steve Stanley. Can one or more of this group step forward and have the type of year seen by Deshea Townsend and Dwayne Rudd in 1994? Three weeks ago, the answer would almost certainly have been no. However, in light of recent events, personnel changes on both sides of the football have suddenly become a possibility. Stallings and his assistants are looking for a spark and it could very well come from within this group.

(The lone junior college signee, strong safety Kevin Jackson, joined the team last spring and he is backing up Andre Short in the secondary.)

Of the five, wide receiver Michael Vaughn has seen the most playing time. Emerging as the Tide's regular punt returner, Vaughn's talents have allowed 1994 returner Deshea Townsend to concentrate on defense and, more importantly, avoid a potential injury that could be devastating to Bama's already thin secondary.

At 6-1, 195, the Clarksdale, Mississippi, native has been impressive in practice, showing good concentration and good hands as a kick returner. At Clarksdale High School, Vaughn was an all-state selection at receiver, catching 64 passes for 1,081 yards and 17 touchdowns his senior year. He also played defensive back, where he recorded 53 tackles and four interceptions. His 40 career

Fernando Bryant (25) and Steve Stanley (4) are members of the freshmen team who have made it into the 1995 Alabama football lineup as members of various special teams.

Barry Fikes Photo

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/OCTOBER '95



touchdown receptions stands as a Mississippi state record.

Thus far, Vaughn has returned eight punts for the Tide, six coming against Arkansas for a total of 18 yards.

With the low number of freshmen, Vaughn fully expected a redshirt year. "I was told during recruiting that I'd have a chance to play," he said. "But I really didn't think I would. During the Vandy game, they sent me in to field a punt. I've caught a bunch of them in practice, but it's different in a real game. I was a little nervous, but I just concentrated on the ball and ended up making a pretty good return (10 yards)."

In Alabama's media guide, Michael Feagin's position is listed as ATH. He is indeed an athlete and could fill a number of different positions for the Tide. Playing primarily on special teams, Feagin's future could take a number of directions. Kick returner, wide receiver, defensive back, and even running back could be in his future.

Thus far, he looks particularly adept at returning kickoffs. Against Southern Miss, he returned four kicks for a total of 65 yards, including a 21 yard return.

An all-state pick from Greenville, the 5-8, 180-pound Feagin is small in stature, but plays much bigger. A two-way player at tailback and defensive back, he rushed for 1,680 yards and 16 touchdowns, as well as catching 11 passes for 212 yards and five touchdowns. His exploits helped Greenville to the 1994 5A state championship.

Of the true freshmen, Fernando Bryant is probably the closest to seeing actual playing time in the Tide secondary. "Fernando has

got great talent, but he's tapered off a little," said Secondary Coach and Defensive Coordinator Bill Oliver. "He's pretty close and we may need him before the year is over."

Another two-way starter from Riverdale High School in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Bryant made a name for himself as a receiver, but came to The Capstone as a defensive back. "I came to Alabama because, in my

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opinion, there is no better place to be a defensive back," he said. "When I got here, I couldn't believe the depth at every position. I'm really surprised to be playing, even though it's only on special teams." Look for Bryant to crack the rotation in the secondary before the year is out.

Although he has failed to pick up the system as quickly as Oliver had hoped, Kelvin Sigler could be a true talent in the making.

A solid cover man from Shaw High School in Mobile, the 6-0, 170 pound Sigler has shown great flashes of speed and ability, but hasn't quite grasped Oliver's complicated scheme. He is playing, albeit sparingly, on special teams.

Sigler considers himself a student of the game, paying close attention to Oliver, as well as starting cornerbacks Townsend and Brad Ford. "I've already learned so much by

watching those guys," he said. "I really would like to play cornerback, but I also enjoy contact so I might be better at safety. I really don't care. I just want to play."

"Some guys just take a little longer to develop," said Oliver. "It's not necessarily a reflection in their talent, but they just don't pick up on things as quick. You look at what Deshea accomplished last year. It's very unusual for someone to come in and do that. Kelvin will have his day. He has too much talent not to."

The best pure athlete of the bunch could be Steve Stanley. An all-state quarterback at Colbert County High School in Leighton, Stanley was named class 3A Most Valuable Player after leading Colbert County to consecutive state titles. He was responsible for 23 touchdowns while passing for more than 1,600 yards and rushing for 1,089. He was a three-year starter at quarterback and a four-year starter at defensive back.

Stanley could have opted for another school and an opportunity to play quarterback. If the opportunity presents itself, he would like to play quarterback, but he feels, as does Oliver, that his future is in the defensive backfield.

Stanley has seen some significant playing time on special teams thus far, recording two tackles against Vanderbilt.

As the five continue to get game experience, their playing time will naturally increase. Look for one or two to see some playing time in the Tide secondary. Michael Vaughn has a chance to see time at receiver, but most would agree that Bama must first concentrate on utilizing starters Curtis Brown and Toderick Malone and experienced back-up men Chad Key and Marcell West.

The other freshmen are working primarily with the scout team, although several have dressed for games this year. Wide receiver Shamari Buchanan is a natural redshirt candidate owing to Bama depth at flanker and split end. Fullback Reggie Grimes turned an ankle in early work. Thomas Hill, another defensive back, has dressed out, but it's unlikely the Tide would try to work yet another secondary man into the playing rotation.

Tide coaches are very pleased with the three offensive linemen and one defensive end, all of whom will be held out this year. Michael Moore is working at center, while Chris Samuels and Jason McDonald are future offensive tackles. Clint Waggoner is an impressive looking defensive end.

Overall, it's a very good group. As one Tide coach commented, "If we had signed 25 and had 13 like that, we'd consider it a good class."

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In The Right Place At The Right Time

by Donald F. Staffo

Sophomore worked his way back to first team with big first game

Being in the right place at the right time is often a key to success. In one respect, Andre Short has not always been in that position. However, the junior strong safety being at Alabama right now appears to be a big part of Crimson Tide football success.

Short said he wasn't in the right place when he made a key play in Alabama's season-opening victory over Vanderbilt. "I was out of position," Short admitted after he had made a fourth quarter interception against the Commodores, one of two pass pick-offs

he recorded in that contest. "I was darn lucky to get back and make the interception. I thought it just must be my night."

Short, who came to Alabama after a stellar high school career as a linebacker, has been listed as strong safety since arriving at The Capstone in 1993. In making the adjustment from linebacker to defensive back he was redshirted that year, then played only on special teams in 1994. He began to make a move in spring training, where he and junior college transfer Kevin Jackson battled to replace Sam Shade, who graduated to the National Football League.

Prior to the opener, Short admitted that he did not feel good about his situation. "My big problem was a lack of consistency," Short said. "I was making too many mistakes. It was a tough week for me because I had come out of spring training at number one, then dropped down to number two just before we played. My head was down, but my teammates encouraged me to keep prac-

ticing hard and to keep my head up."

Although Short didn't start the Vanderbilt game, by the end of the contest he had taken over first team duties. He played about 75 per cent of the Vandy game after he and Jackson split playing time on the first four defensive series. He started and played virtually the entire game against Southern Miss.

Short's position coach, Defensive Coordinator Bill Oliver, said the two interceptions weren't critical to Short's promotion. "He just played better," Oliver said. "I'm proud of what he's done and hope he continues to improve."

Short made his first interception on the first play of the second quarter in Nashville. "I was kind of stunned," Short said. "I thought, 'I'm finally making a contribution.' In high school I was used to being the center of attention and after the Vanderbilt game I thought that finally it was my time to perform at this level." He returned the



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two interceptions a total of 41 yards and, as Head Coach Gene Stallings pointed out, he also had a number of key tackles.

Oliver said Short has made improvement. "He's much more knowledgeable about the game," Oliver said. "The only thing he needs is more playing time and experience, which is true of anyone. The more you do something, the better you will get at it."

Short is not a finished football player by

any means. He knows that he needs to become a better tackler and a more skilled defender in man-to-man pass coverage. He said he thinks being able to see the field and his awareness of what is going on, along with his ability to react, help offset some of his deficiencies.

The 5-11, 195-pound sophomore runs a 4.65 40-yard dash. He acknowledges that Jackson is bigger (6-0, 205) and faster. But

Short thinks his strength (he benches 320 and squats 465), along with having been at Alabama longer, are advantages for him in his battle for first team.

Short has also been around Bama long enough to know that the depth chart can change after one game, or even one practice. But now that he's tasted quality playing time, he said he's anxious to stay number one.

He said sitting out the 1993 season as a redshirt freshman was difficult for him. "I practiced on the scout team, but then when it came time for a game I felt down and disappointed" he said. "I felt I wasn't really a part of the team. It was tough on me."

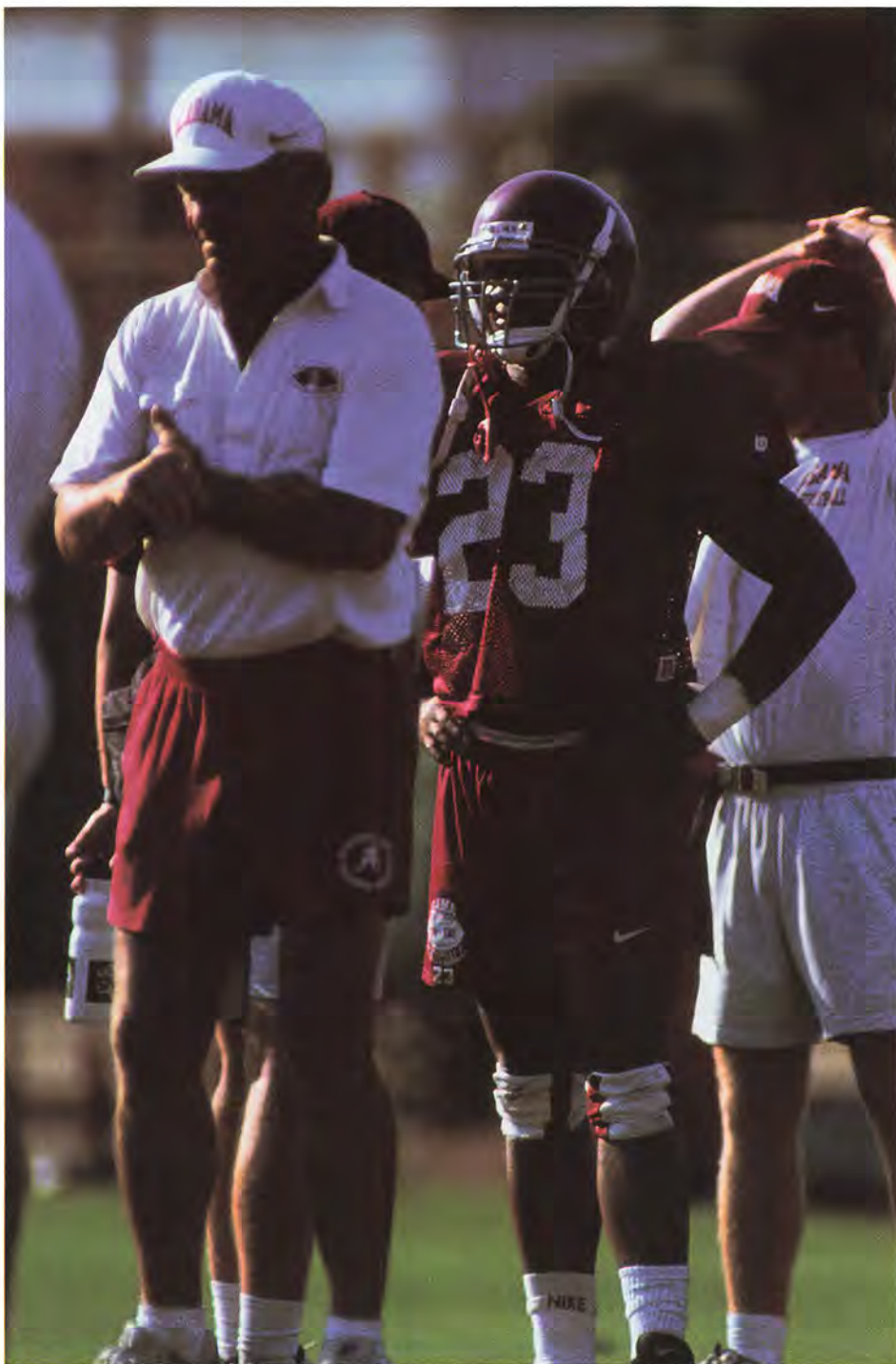
Although he played in every game last year, appearing only on special teams was not completely fulfilling either. "I played on the kickoff, punt and punt returns teams, and although I got in all the games, I didn't feel like I was contributing to the team as much as I wanted to," he said. "Coach Oliver didn't think I was ready to contribute on defense, so he decided to hold me out another year."

So even though Short still has two years of eligibility remaining after this season, he doesn't feel his rise to starter has been quick. "This is my third year at Alabama," he said. "I wish I could have become a starter sooner and contributed more."

Nevertheless, he recognizes the advantages to having been brought along slowly. "I got a feel for things," he said of his two years as a practice-only strong safety. "I gained experience so that everything is not new to me now. That gave me a little edge for this year."

"Last year, I wasn't really comfortable. The big difference is that this year I've got a lot of confidence. I feel 100 per cent more confident."

"But I know I've got a lot of room for improvement. I'm practicing hard to try to keep my mistakes to a minimum. I'm focusing on doing everything right. If I put forth the effort and get beat, that's one thing. But if I get beat on mistakes I made because I



Andre Short spent most of his first two years at Alabama trying to learn from his defensive backfield coach, Defensive Coordinator Bill Oliver. Now a third-year sophomore, Short has worked his way into the starting lineup for the Crimson Tide.

Barry Fikes Photo

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/OCTOBER '95

did not do something right, then I've let down my coaches and my teammates."

Short said part of his responsibility at strong safety is to recognize the defense and then get the defensive backs in the right coverage. With right cornerback Deshea Townsend the only returning starter in the secondary this year, that aspect of the defense was considered suspect prior to the season. Five interceptions (two by Brad Ford and one by Cedric Samuel, in addition to the two turned in by Short) in the opener helped alleviate worries about the defensive backfield.

"Going into the season, I know there was a lot of doubt concerning the secondary," Short said. "I wasn't sure how we were going

to perform as a unit. That first game probably put a lot of people at ease."

Short was a three-year starter at LaGrange (Georgia) High School, where he was a *SuperPrep* All-America and received honorable mention All-America honors from *USA Today*. He was named the 10th best defensive back prospect in the nation by one recruiting service. Short opted for Alabama over Georgia, Mississippi State, Indiana and Virginia. He cancelled a recruiting visit to Georgia.

"It just felt like home to me," he said of his visit to The Capstone. "Everyone made me feel real welcome. Coach Stallings was like a father-figure to me. I just felt this was

a place where I could get my education and play football."

A sports fitness management major, Short said he tries to work hard in the classroom and on the football field. However, he admitted that he sometimes needs outside motivation. "Like just about everyone, I've got a tendency to slack up at times," he said. "I need somebody on top of me to make sure I do things the proper way. That's why Coach Oliver is there."

Short said his goal is "to play steady."

And, he said, his LaGrange High School team was selected as the number one team in the nation in 1992. He remembers that feeling and said he'd like to experience the same thing with the Crimson Tide.

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Tide Has Interim Athletics Director

by Kirk McNair

Former BYU coach and athletics director has long list of achievements

Cecil Hurt, sports editor of *The Tuscaloosa News*, took note of the biography of Dr. Glen Tuckett, who had just been announced as the interim athletics director for The University of Alabama. Dr. Tuckett had served in the Army in post-war Japan. "So," Hurt said, "this isn't the first time you've gone in somewhere right after the bomb dropped."

In 1947 Tuckett went to Japan with the Eighth Army. However, he was soon assigned to Special Forces and spent his military career as a member of an Army baseball team playing exhibition games around the country. Tuckett's current post-bomb work will be more serious. As a part of his charge from University President Dr. Roger Sayers, Tuckett will be "somewhat involved" in Alabama's appeal of NCAA sanctions against the football program. Because he is now the athletics director, he will be required to be present when Alabama's appeal is heard, probably sometime in late October or early November. "I'll have one or two suggestions and a skill or two that might be helpful," Tuckett said.

He also brings to the table for Alabama a wonderful reputation in his profession and the acquaintance of virtually everyone who is anyone in the NCAA.

In addition to his work in the appeals process, Tuckett has been charged to evaluate Alabama's program of NCAA compliance and make any changes he believes are necessary. Otherwise, he said, he wants Alabama athletics to stay the course that has been so successful.

Tuckett, 67, retired as director of athletics at Brigham Young University two years ago. He served in that post from 1976 to 1993. Sayers was familiar with him both from NCAA committee work and from when Sayers was president of the College Football Association, an association in which Tuckett was also active. Sayers said upon the appointment of Tuckett that followed the reassignment of Hootie Ingram from athletics di-



Dr. Glen Tuckett (left) was the first and only choice of University President Dr. Roger Sayers to serve as interim athletics director at Alabama. Tuckett, who retired as athletics director at BYU, will serve for at least a year.

Barry Fikes Photo

rector to the president's office as a special administrator to oversee the expansion of Bryant-Denny Stadium, "I established a short list of one. Every call thereafter confirmed my judgment that the name I had in mind was the perfect match for the assignment."

Tuckett first became aware of the penalties imposed against Alabama from afar, reading the newspaper in Salt Lake City, Utah. His impression at that time? "I thought they were too harsh," he said.

Although Tuckett has a doctorate, he also has a long background in athletics as a baseball player and baseball and football coach. (He attended several football clinics conducted by Paul Bryant.) Upon his appointment at Alabama, Tuckett said he was just getting comfortable in re-

tirement and added he wasn't taking the job because he needed "ego food." A list of his accomplishments confirms that.

During his tenure as director of athletics at BYU, the Cougars won 14 Western Athletic Conference football championships, the 1984 national championship and participated in 16 bowl games. BYU basketball won seven WAC crowns and participated in 10 NCAA Tournaments. The BYU golf team won the 1981 national title.

As head baseball coach (1969-76) he had a 489-258 (.655) record. His teams won 13 WAC championships and two NCAA district championships. When he retired he was the ninth winningest coach in NCAA history. He was selected as head coach of the 1974 U.S. Amateur baseball team which won the World Amateur championship for only the

second time in 27 years. He served as president of the National Association of Baseball Coaches and was inducted into the Collegiate Baseball Hall of Fame in 1979. He also served on the ABCA All-America Selection Committee and the College World Series Games Committee.

Among his NCAA committee assignments were Post-Season Football and Baseball Tournament Selection. He also served on the College Football Association Long Range Planning Committee and as chairman of the Television Committee. He also served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

He was inducted into the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Hall of Fame this year, one of a number of such honors. He is also in the BYU and Utah Sports halls of fame and the Collegiate Baseball Hall of Fame.

Among his personal awards are the Dale Rex, symbolic of the person who contributed most to amateur athletics in the state of Utah; the Lefty Gomez, given to the person in the United States who has contributed significantly to amateur baseball; and the Homer Rice, given annually to the person in the NCAA who has made the most significant contribution to intercollegiate athletics.

Tuckett has probably heard an original limerick or two in his time, but he was smart enough not to marry a woman named Nan. He and his wife, the former Josephine Whittaker of Stockport, England, have four daughters and six grandchildren.

Tuckett has admiration for his predecessor and said that he had been a friend of Ingram's for 20 years. Before taking the position he said he called Ingram. He did not know Alabama Head Football Coach Gene Stallings before accepting the position, but he certainly knew of Stallings. And after the two chatted, Tuckett said, "There seems to be little or no pretense to Gene Stallings." And he predicted, "We'll get along famously."

Stallings said, "I'll say this. He's a whole lot more qualified for his job than I am for mine. He has an excellent reputation. You can't find anybody in athletics who doesn't like him. I like the fact he's been a football coach, although I'm not saying that's absolutely necessary for an athletics director."

Tuckett is athletic-looking (he said he jogs four miles a day), witty ("not a step further"), and has a bright-eyed intelligence about him. He sometimes speaks in sound bites—he calls them Tuckettisms—, sounding somewhat like

Dr. Tuckett's former boss has thoughts about NCAA Infractions Committee tossing out Summary Disposition. See Page 6

the Reverend Jesse Jackson ("I'm better at preparing than I am at repairing").

He said he found a "comfort level" in the Alabama job. Otherwise he wouldn't have taken it. He said that he had just begun to be able to play golf without feeling guilty and told his friends that he planned to finish his book during retirement. (When they inquired about the book he was writing, he replied, "Not writing. Reading.")

But he is very serious about the job ahead, a job he expects to have for at least a year. He will not be a candidate for the permanent position.

He said his concerns as athletics director will be for "the athletes, the coaches and the university. Every athlete, every coach, and every sport is important. I'll try to knock down the line drives before they reach the

coaches." As the father of four daughters, he is on the side of gender equity. And he said he wants the Tide athletes "to be ladies and gentlemen, not just women and men, to be productive students and to be role models."

Tuckett was inclined to accept the position because of the success of Bama's teams, the financial stability and level of funding for sports, and the facilities.

He said the reputation of the football program is "tarnished and it's our charge to do all we can to restore the luster as soon as possible. But the Alabama football program is healthy and productive. It just needs some cosmetic work, not an organ transplant." Tuckett said he considered himself to be in the role of the "substitute quarterback. I will learn the game plan. I will do little 'checking off,' although I have that prerogative." He added, "When you're in charge, you're in charge. You don't want to flex your muscles just for the sake of flexing them, but I think I have that authority."

He said, "We'll look at everything to see how it's being done and whether we can do it better. But it won't be any of 'This is how we did it at BYU.' It will be a matter if I have an idea that will help."

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'96 Expectations Are Lower After Heavy Losses From '95

by Kirk McNair

Newcomers will be a big part of plans as Tide enters post-McDyess era

Introductions are in order, or at least that's the way things may seem when Alabama begins pre-season basketball practice October 15. The Crimson Tide will have a handful of new coaches and players this year.

Last year Alabama went 23-10 (12-6 in Southeastern Conference play) and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Championship Tournament. Expectations will not be so high this season. That's not because of the newcomers, but because of the losses.

Coach David Hobbs goes into this season with fully two-thirds of the scoring and rebounding gone from last year. The missing accounted for 1,601 of Bama's 2,408 points and 935 of the Tide's 1,385 rebounds. The Alabama of 1995-96 will count among its absentees from last season: two assistant coaches, four starters (two of whom were first round draft choices by the NBA), and the top back-up men at both guard spots.

The big loss is center Antonio McDyess, who was the second player chosen in this year's draft and who left with two years of eligibility remaining. McDyess was Bama's leading scorer (13.9 per game) and leading rebounder (10.2). However, Bama also lost its second (Jamal Faulkner, 12.3, 5.8) and third (Jason Caffey, 12.1, 8.0) scorers and rebounders, along with two-year starting wing Artie Griffin (7.0). Bama also lost top back-ups at both guard positions, Terrence Bethel at point and Bryan Passink at wing. Passink was the team's top free throw shooter and a key player in close wins over California, Mississippi State and Auburn last year.

"From a numbers standpoint, we just don't have them without Antonio," Hobbs said. "With him in there, you've got a pretty good rotation with a proven guy back. You've got an All-SEC, All-American type of go-to guy. Now we don't have him, and the problem is there are so many unproven guys."

While basketball resources are severely depleted at Bama, the cupboard is not completely bare. Marvin Orange is back to start

his fourth year at guard. Although by necessity he has played primarily at point throughout his career, the 6-0, 185-pounder may be more suited to wing. Orange, who averaged 6.7 points per game, led the Tide with 139 assists, but also recorded 75 turnovers. Still, he will open the season as the point guard.

A few part-time starters from last year are back, headed by junior small forward Eric Washington, who started 13 games and averaged over 21 minutes of playing time. He averaged 11.9 points per game and led Bama in three-point field goals with 69. Roy Rogers, the likely replacement for McDyess in the middle, had five starts and averaged over 14 minutes per game. Although the 6-9, 238-pound senior averaged only 3.5 points and 3.6 rebounds, he led the team with 68 blocked shots, including eight against New Mexico State. Senior forward Anthony Brown started each of the past two seasons as the number one small forward, but in both years he was injured and dropped to a back-up role. Last year he played in 12 games before having to under go shoulder surgery.

Also returning with very limited experience are junior center Wade Kaiser, senior point guard Marco Whitfield and sophomore walk-on center Scott Hamilton. There's one other returnee, although he did not play last year. Damon Bacote, 6-3, sat out a transfer year (from Richmond) and will be a sophomore wing player. He was a good practice performer as a member of the scout team last year.

Hobbs said, "Inside, we've got Roy (Rogers) who we know can play. Everybody else is basically new because Wade Kaiser hasn't played many minutes. It's possible that someone like Anthony Brown will have to play down in there some depending on what everyone else does. It's an unknown at this point."

Fortunately for Alabama, the Crimson Tide's 1994-95 recruiting class has been rated among the nation's best. The bad news is that so is just about every other SEC school, including Arkansas, Kentucky and South Carolina generally

Newcomers to the Alabama basketball program are Anton Reese (front left), Thalamus McGhee (back left), Brian Williams (center) and M.C. Mazique (right).

Barry Fikes Photo





ALABAMA
SEC
BASKETBALL



Alabama Head Coach David Hobbs expects this year's Crimson Tide to be a different type team than in the past with more reliance on guards for scoring.

Barry Fikes Photo

rated among the nation's top five. Additionally, it usually takes a year or so for new players to achieve in the tough SEC. However, Alabama must count on newcomers, at least for depth, possibly to start.

Inside, the Tide added 6-9, 280-pound Thalamus McGhee from Trinity Valley Community College in Texas and 6-9, 200-pound freshman forward MC. Mazique from Brooklyn, New York. It may be that no team signed a more highly-regarded pair of guards than Bama when the Tide got 6-2 point guard Brian Williams from Jeff Davis High School in Montgomery, Alabama's Mr. Basketball; and wing guard Anton Reese, 6-3, from Lithonia, Georgia. However, the signing class has at least one question mark in that Mazique has not played organized basketball the past two years. Earlier there

had been some question about Reese being able to come back from a broken foot suffered his senior season, but good performances in a number of post-season all-star games seem to have that question answered in the affirmative.

The losses and gains change Alabama in some ways, but in others the Tide will remain constant. For over two decades under three different head coaches Bama has been a man-to-man defensive team and an offensive team that tries to get points from inside players. Another feature of Alabama teams in that period has been use of a number of swing players, those who can play either guard or forward, inside or outside.

The infusion of quick guards could improve Alabama's chances for a better fast break game than has been the case the past

couple of years. However, the Tide lost great speed from the inside players, so that the overall tone of the team will be quicker on the outside, slower on the inside.

"This probably won't be the same kind of team we have had," Hobbs said. "We will probably be more guard-oriented, more perimeter-oriented. Man-to-man will still be our base defense. It always has been and always will be. We might press a little more to take advantage of what we have, but in order to press we'll have to have a big man who can get back in a hurry and who can provide that last line of defense without getting into foul trouble."

Bama will lose some size inside regardless of the line-up because Faulkner was a strong rebounder from small forward. If Anthony Brown wins the power forward spot, that will be a big drop in size and scoring ability from what Caffey brought to the position. An advantage for the Tide is Rogers' excellent shot-blocking ability.

Guessing at a starting line-up is almost impossible, in part because there are a number of players who could figure in at different positions. The Tide staff has probably penciled in Orange at point guard, Rogers inside and Washington at small forward. There's a temptation to project Brown at power forward primarily because he has been in the program for three years and has had starting time. However, it would be a plus if one of the taller newcomers, McGhee or Mazique, could take that inside spot alongside Rogers. "Anthony is strong enough to help us inside, but I don't know if he's big enough to do the job defensively," Hobbs said. "I think Anthony will be a better offensive player this year because he'll be able to take a normal shot without pain in his shoulder." Although he's not likely to start, sophomore walk-on Scott Hamilton brings a 6-9, 230-pound frame to the inside and could be a valuable back-up player.

Hobbs is also banking on senior Wade Kaiser, a former Mr. Basketball in Alabama who has been limited by a very small frame. However, as Hobbs pointed out, "He can shoot the ball, he can pass it pretty well and he can run the floor. If he is strong enough to defend and rebound, he has an opportunity to play this year."

Based on reputation, Williams could earn the point guard position, allowing Orange to move to the wing. Once again, though, there will be a temptation on the part of Hobbs to stick with as much experience as possible, which could mean Orange at point and Bacote at wing. "Brian brings a certain

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/OCTOBER '95

amount of skill, but he is going to come in with a good bit of expectation, and that's a heavy burden to carry," Hobbs said. "The way he played in the state tournament and in the post-season all-star games, the expectations are going to be up there. Our fans have got to understand that he is a freshman and is going to have freshman days."

Washington is probably set at small forward in part because he showed last year that he can be a terrific scorer. Although he finished last season as the number four scorer, his points-per-minute production was very high. Indeed, he was Bama's top scorer in 11 games last year (though none in the final month of the season). "Eric was not a multi-dimensional player last year," Hobbs said. "He was a shooter. In order to help himself and our team he needs to improve his ball-handling, he needs to be able to take the ball to the basket, he needs to step up his rebounding, and he needs to be more consistent on the defensive end."

In addition to the alterations of the squad, the Crimson Tide coaching staff also has a new look this year. Longtime assistant Gregg Polinsky was named head coach at Georgia Southern and Hobbs replaced him with Bob Marlin, head coach at Pensacola Junior

1995-96 Alabama Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp	Hometown
30	Damon Bacote	G	So.	6-3	197	Tr	Hampton, Va.
11	Anthony Brown	F	Sr.	6-5	215	3L	St. Petersburg, Fla.
5	Wade Kaiser	C	Jr.	6-9	213	2L	Birmingham
44	Scott Hamilton	C	So.	6-9	230	1L	Centralia, Wash.
25	M.C. Mazique	F	Fr.	6-9	200	HS	Brooklyn, N.Y.
54	Thalamus McGhee	C	Jr.	6-9	280	JC	Houston, Tex.
15	Marvin Orange	G	Sr.	6-0	185	3L	Columbia, S.C.
31	Anton Reese	G	Fr.	6-3	192	HS	Lithonia, Ga.
50	Roy Rogers	C	Sr.	6-9	240	3L	Linden
34	Blake Thrasher	G	Fr.	6-3	175	RS	Garland, Tex.
14	Eric Washington	F	Jr.	6-3	180	2L	Jackson, Miss.
13	Marco Whitfield	G	Sr.	5-11	150	1L	Decatur
3	Brian Williams	G	Fr.	6-2	180	HS	Montgomery

Head Coach: David Hobbs

Assistant Coaches: Thad Fitzpatrick, Bob Marlin, Mike Davis

College. And restricted earnings assistant Lane Odom became a full-time coach at East Carolina. Hobbs brought in former Tide star Mike Davis, who has been coaching in the Continental Basketball Association.

Tide players have been in an off-season program since the beginning of classes in late August. Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach Terry Jones is the Tide's off-season coach. However, a change in NCAA rules

this year has allowed an additional aspect of pre-season work. Players are allowed to work out eight hours per week in the off-season program. A player may voluntarily apply two of those hours to individual work with a basketball coach. Davis was given the responsibility of being available for those players who wanted to take advantage of that teaching, and virtually every player has worked with Davis in the off-season.

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Tide Has Number Of Challenges

by Donna Fromme

Losses to graduation and injury mean Tide must rely on number of newcomers



Rick Moody says he loves a challenge. If that's true, then Alabama's head women's basketball coach should really enjoy the next few months. No season in recent memory will be any more challenging than the one Moody and his team is about to face.

Challenges have long been a part of Moody's life at Alabama. He took a mediocre program and turned it into a Final Four participant in just five seasons. He produced Alabama's first women's basketball All-America, brought home more than a dozen regular season tournament titles, and even managed to have his players win nearly two dozen Academic All-Southeastern Conference Academic awards.

Moody said that 1995 was the toughest challenge of all. "It wasn't because I felt pressure from other people to repeat," he said. "The challenge was in keeping our people inspired and motivated. Our upper classmen had experienced the near-ultimate, going to the Final Four, and what more could they do than win the national championship? It takes a very, very hungry and special kind of player to stay motivated after a year like we'd just had.

"We started out like a house afire. We were 8-0 and ranked as high as fifth in the country, and then, suddenly, we weren't as hungry. Our players still had great attitudes, but you've got to have that hunger. You can't relax when everyone's shooting at you. What helped us end as well as we did was that we had good players. That's the bottom line. We had good players who were experienced, and we had a couple of great players in Niesa Johnson and Yolanda Watkins. This year we have none of the three: Niesa, Yolanda or experience. I guess I'll find out if I can coach a lick or not."

The Crimson Tide women have lost four starters from last year, all of whom have been starters since their freshman years. One of those, Naismith finalist and two-time All-America Niesa Johnson, will go down in national collegiate history as one of the best ever to play the

Alabama Head Women's Basketball Coach Rick Moody has a reputation for being one of the best fishermen in the area. For the sake of his women's basketball team, he hopes that the fishing he did during last year's recruiting seasons will pay off as Bama rebuilds in 1996.

Barry Fikes Photo

game. The loss of another, senior All-SEC center Yolanda Watkins, was an unexpected shock. Watkins blew out a knee playing basketball in July and she's out for the year while she recovers from major reconstructive surgery.

Bama also lost senior starters Madonna Thompson at guard and Marlene Stevenson at forward. The only returning starter is sophomore point guard Brittney Ezell.

Thus, Alabama—a Final Four team in 1994 and a Sweet 16 performer last season—is rebuilding.

Moody and his staff went into recruiting last year expecting to build around Ezell and Watkins. "It was a devastating blow to our basketball team to lose Yolanda this summer," Moody said. "She is the only player we had returning who has really competed and performed in clutch situations and has helped us to win a significant number of games. Brittney played in those games as a freshman last year, but she's a guard, not a 'go-to' player inside who has to produce under pressure. You have to win games around the basket. If you don't get productions around the basket, you don't survive."

Moody did have a good recruiting year. He added two proven blue chip players in 6-1 post player Shalonda Enis and 5-9 guard Dominique Canty. Enis transferred to Alabama from Trinity Valley Community College in Texas, where she earned 1995 Junior College Player of the Year honors. This summer she made USA Basketball's Jones Cup Team, and her past includes being named the U.S. Olympic Sport Festival's most valuable player. Canty was a *Parade* and *Street&Smith* All-America. They are among six new players on Bama's roster.

"Our first year we went to the run-and-shoot system in which we were basically a three-point shooting team," Moody said. "There were nights when the three-pointers didn't fall, and we didn't have the inside game that it took to be competitive. So the loss of Yolanda opens up a big hole. Fortunately, I believe we have a committee of people coming in who are capable of producing if they are in the proper condition both physically and mentally.

"Shalonda Enis has proven that she is a bona fide prospect to play around the basket and be effective. She's the National Junior College Player of the Year, a U.S. Olympic Festival MVP, and she knows how to win basketball games, and that's very important.

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positive way are the ones who can sustain success."

Still, Moody admits, it is a rough schedule for any team to face.

"Our schedule is the most difficult that we've had since I've been at Alabama," the coach said. "Even our own tournament where we have Maine and the University of North Carolina-Charlotte includes quality teams. Then you go straight to another tournament that has the past two national champions. And even at Middle Tennessee State we have a team that we open up with, Jackson State, which was in the NCAA Tournament last year and has all its people back. Then we go to Vermont, which has had an outstanding basketball team the past two years, including being 28-2 in 1994. And then we have the SEC schedule. And based on the fact we have a significant number of new people who have not had to perform against this level of competition, it will be interesting to see how they respond."

Alabama begins practice October 15, has exhibition games against Australia (November 13) and Athletes in Action (November 17) before the season-opener against Central Florida in the first round of the Sheraton Capstone Classic.

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State Has Some Big Ones

by Kirk McNair

A look at some of the top state high school players

It is no secret that with Alabama having limited football scholarships to give when signings begin February 7 that Crimson Tide coaches hope to give the bulk of those grants to linemen. Although game headlines most often go to the skill position players, it takes five offensive linemen, plus a tight end, and four defensive linemen plus three linebackers—13 of the 22 positions on offensive and defensive—to have a team. And these big men are at a premium.

Fortunately for Alabama, this appears to be a banner year for quality big men. This first 'BAMA look at recruiting this year is a look at the linemen, tight ends and linebackers in Alabama. These are the players most noted by various publications and recruiting services as the top prospects in Alabama. It is likely that Crimson Tide coaches are recruiting some of these, not recruiting some, and recruiting some who are not on this list. Additionally, college recruiters will change their lists as the season goes along, owing to performance, injuries, and/or academics.

Bama is probably more interested in offen-



Ben Bott

sive and defensive linemen than in linebackers, because Alabama has stockpiled some talented linebackers, but has heavy graduation losses coming in the line, particularly the defensive line. It is likely the Tide will try to land at least one tight end.

Here, in alphabetical order, are those we have identified as likely college prospects from Alabama high schools:

Fred Bishop is a 6-1, 215-pound linebacker for Coach Buzz Busby at Central High School in Tuscaloosa. Although he is not ranked among the very best players in the

state, he is considered the best player in West Alabama. Bishop is the brother of former LSU tight end Harold Bishop, who is now playing in the National Football League.

Ben Bott is not as well known as some of the other top prep players in Alabama, primarily because he has not stayed anywhere long enough to get known. The 6-4, 275-pound two-way lineman is playing for Coach Joe Downey at Theodore. That's his third school in three years. He is projected as an offensive lineman. He played in Michigan as a prep sophomore and at UMS-Wright in Mobile as a junior. He has also played basketball and, as many linemen, is a shot put man for the track and field team. Additionally, he has been a soccer goalie. He is considering Alabama, Michigan State, Auburn, Mississippi State and Florida State.

Matt Brennan is a 6-5, 260-pound lineman for Coach Joel Williams at UMS-Wright in Mobile. He was ranked 14th on the *Tuscaloosa News Sweet 16*, which noted that he is a "late-blooming prospect who could rate higher than this in the post-season." *The Birmingham News* ranked Brennan as the state's number 8 prospect on its 1996 Super Seniors list, and the *Birmingham Post-Herald* also put him number 8 on its Ten Most Wanted. Brennan, who has qualified academically, is considering Alabama and Auburn, among others.

The Decatur Daily reported an interesting

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fact on Jason Burks, a 6-6, 275-pound offensive tackle at Hartselle. The newspaper said that the vanity license plate on his car reads "Burks 78," which is his uniform number. The newspaper also noted that the license plate is inside a Crimson Tide frame, and Burks said that his favorite school is Alabama. He plays for veteran coach Don Woods, where he has started for two years and lettered for three years. He graded 93 per cent last year. Burks also plays for the basketball team. He is academically eligible and considering Alabama, Vanderbilt, FSU, Georgia Tech and Auburn.

Leonardo Carson is a 6-3, 262-pounder who projects as a tight end or a linebacker in college. However, at Shaw High School in Mobile, Coach Tommy Davis uses Carson at



Leonardo Carson

quarterback and tight end on offense and at linebacker on defense. He's a four-year starter who has a 3.0 grade point average and has scored a 26 on the ACT. He's also a power forward. He said that Auburn is his favorite team and he

does not list Alabama as one of the schools he is considering. He lists Notre Dame, Tennessee, Mississippi State, Florida and Auburn.

Tim Castro is a 6-4, 265-pound offensive and defensive lineman for Coach John Maddaloni at Wetumpka High School. He was all-metro in the Montgomery area as both an offensive and defensive lineman last year. He is projected as an offensive lineman. He bench presses 320 and is academically eligible.

One of the state's best-kept secrets seems to be linebacker Quentin Caver, a 6-4, 225-pounder for Coach Rodney Bivens at Anniston High School. However, despite not being listed by most of the so-called recruiting experts, he is being watched by college scouts. He could be either an inside or outside linebacker.

It may be something of a surprise to see Eric Chappell in this list since he is the quarterback at Montgomery Carver. However, Coach Alonza Pickett also uses the 6-5, 225-pound Chappell as a defensive end. And since he is likely to go to about 240, defensive end or linebacker seems to be his likely college position. He was rated 10th both by *The Birmingham News* and

The "Sweet 16"

For many years we have said that the most accurate newspaper account of high school football prospects in Alabama has been the Sweet 16 list compiled by Cecil Hurt of *The Tuscaloosa News*. This year's pre-season Sweet 16 is:

1. Quarterback Tamaurice Martin of Mobile Williamson, 2. defensive end Kenny Smith of Stevenson North Jackson, 3. tight end Gorman Thornton of Montgomery Jeff Davis, 4. offensive lineman Colin Sears of Russellville, 5. quarterback Brad Knight of Millbrook Stanhope Elmore, 6. defensive back Shawn McCorkel of Dothan Northview, 7. defensive back Tim Bowens of Killen Brooks, 8. tight end Joey DuPlan of Mobile Murphy, 9. lineman Cole Cubelic of Homewood, 10. quarterback Eric Chappell of Montgomery Carver, 11. linebacker James Pitts of Phenix City Central, 12. quarterback Tellie Embery of Sylacauga B.B. Comer, 13. defensive lineman Seneca Knight of Alexander City Benjamin Russell, 14. offensive lineman Matt Brennan of Mobile UMS, 15. defensive back Rodney Crayton of Dadeville, and 16. running back Ramon Posey of Birmingham Woodlawn.

Hurt also listed a second 16 in alphabetical order. It includes:

Linebacker Fred Bishop of Tuscaloosa Central, offensive lineman Ben Bott of Theodore, defensive back Rodregis Brooks of Dadeville, offensive lineman Jason Burks of Hartselle, fullback Lenardo Carson of Mobile Shaw, defensive back Richmond Floers of Vestavia, wide receiver Ramon Goode of Sheffield, split end Darryl Johnson of Curry, tight end Javoris Johnson of Anniston, wide receiver Marcus Knight of Sylacauga B.B. Comer, defensive end Bryne Malone of Frisco City, wide receiver Dennison Robinson of Mobile Murphy, running back Courtney Rose of Hazlewood, defensive end Tanaka Scot of Mobile Williamson, offensive lineman Kelvin White of Courtland and defensive back Zach Winkler of Mortimer Jordan.

The Tuscaloosa News. He lists Alabama, Florida, Penn State and Tennessee as his top college choices.

Michael Childress is a 6-4, 280-pound two-way lineman for Coach Phil Lazenby at Guntersville. Childress is very versatile, playing center, guard and tackle on offense and nose tackle, tackle and end on defense, and he's projected as a likely center or guard in college. He's a three-year starter in football

and basketball and is also a shot put and discus man in track. He said his favorite school is Alabama and his favorite college player is Bama's Shannon Brown. He is considering Alabama, Auburn, Georgia Tech, Mississippi State and Arkansas.



Michael Childress

Cole Cubelic is one of the state's top-rated players, ranked ninth by both Birmingham newspapers and *The Tuscaloosa News*. He's a 6-4, 275-pound tight end and defensive tackle for Coach Bob Newton at Homewood. He expects to play on the defensive line in college, and lists Florida, Auburn, Alabama, Tennessee and Miami as the schools he is considering. Although he suffered a knee injury as a junior, he came on strong at the end of the season. He has improved his strength in the off season.

Joey DuPlan is a 6-5, 230-pound tight end for Coach Terry Curtis at Mobile Murphy. DuPlan is ranked as the state's eighth top prospect by *The Tuscaloosa News*, 14th by *The Birmingham News* and in the second 10 by the *Post-Herald*. DuPlan was more of a blocker than a receiver in 1994, although he did make 12 catches for 192 yards. He has 4.75-second speed in the 40-yard dash and is a good student. He has attracted interest from Alabama, Florida, Auburn and Notre Dame.

Kyle Gullahorn is a 6-5 270-pound offensive lineman for Coach Mike Battles at Hueytown. He bench presses 315, but is best known for his quickness and agility and good blocking ability. He's also an outstanding shot put man for the track team.

Jevaris Johnson is a 6-5, 220-pound tight end for Coach Rodney Bivens at Anniston, another of the state's players who is better known by college recruiters than by the recruiting experts. He is an excellent student. He is extremely agile and mobile with good speed and has a reputation as being a good blocker and receiver.

If Seneca Knight takes care of the academic end of things, the 6-5, 280-pound two-way lineman at Benjamin Russell High School in Alexander City might be among the top prospects in the nation. He plays offensive tackle and defensive end and tackle for Coach Steve Savarese and could play either side of the line in college. He's interested in Alabama, Auburn, Notre Dame and



Seneca Knight

Nebraska. He's a three-year starter who is also a shot put man for the track team. He was ranked 17th by *The Birmingham News* and 13th by *The Tuscaloosa News*.

Kerry Lee is a 6-6, 265-pound defensive

tackle for Coach Billy Kinard at Northview in Dothan. He is considered something of a raw talent by college recruiters.

Bryne Malone is an offensive tackle and defensive end who expects to be a defensive end or outside linebacker in college. Malone, whose nickname is "Lurch," is 6-7, 242. He plays for Coach John Harper at Frisco City, where he has been a four-year starter. He has also been a three-year starter in basketball. He is a cousin of Georgia Tech's David Pleasant, but says FSU is his favorite school.

Kevin Malone is a 6-3, 236-pound linebacker for Coach Robert Herring at Oxford. Some project him as an offensive lineman in college.

Andrew McGraw is a 6-5, 275-pound offensive lineman for Coach Al McGuire at Huntsville Butler. He's considered the top player in the Huntsville area this year.

William Peake is one of the biggest men in the state, a 6-3, 300-pound offensive lineman for Coach Curtis Coleman at Huffman High School in Birmingham.

James Pitts was ranked 11th by *The Tuscaloosa News*, which noted that he would



James Pitts

probably rank higher except for questions about his academics. *The Birmingham News* rated him 23rd. Pitts is a 6-1, 245-pound linebacker for Coach Wayne Trawick at Phenix City Central, where he was all-state

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as a junior. He also plays fullback on offense. He said that Alabama is his favorite team and lists Bama, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, Florida and Nebraska as schools he is considering.

Ezell Powell has something of a familiar name to Alabama football fans. And, indeed, he is the cousin of the Crimson Tide's Ozell Powell. Ezell is a 6-5, 255-pound two-way tackle at Georgia where he plays for Coach Donald Nelson. He's a four-year starter in football and also plays basketball. He's projected as a defensive end in college. He was ranked 13th by *The Birmingham News*.

Kendrick Rogers is a 6-6, 268-pound defensive tackle for Coach Benjamin Harris at Blount High School in Prichard. He had 70 tackles, including six sacks, as a junior. He's also a basketball player.

Tanaka "Doc" Scott is a 6-3, 230-pound tight end and defensive end for Coach Curtis Horton at Mobile Williamson. He is projected as a defensive end in college. He's a four-year starter.

Colin Sears has already answered one of the primary questions of college recruiters. He is an honor student who made 28 on the

ACT as a junior. Sears, a 6-4, 260-pound offensive lineman for Coach Don Cox at Russellville, was ranked fourth by *The Tuscaloosa News* and *Post-Herald* and seventh by *The Birmingham News*. He is an Alabama fan, but he is also being recruited by Tennessee, Notre Dame, Auburn, Penn State and FSU.

Alabama got the best early news of the recruiting season when Kenny Smith announced in early September that he was committed to the Crimson Tide. Smith, a 6-7, 265-pound defensive end at North Jackson in Stevenson where he plays for Coach Phillip Lolley, is ranked as the one of the nation's top players. He also played tight end, but is projected as a defensive player. *The Tuscaloosa News* ranked him as the state's number two prospect, while the two Birmingham newspapers rated him number three. Although he has committed to Bama, a publication covering Tennessee football recently said that he is still being recruited by the Vols, Notre Dame, Penn State, Florida State, Auburn, Georgia, Georgia Tech and Nebraska. He also plays center on the basketball team and center field for the baseball



Armond Todd

squad. He was a pre-season All-America by *Blue Chip Illustrated* and an honorable mention pick by *Street & Smith*. He is academically eligible.

Another familiar name to Alabama fans is that of Gorman Thornton, the brother of former Crimson Tide defensive tackle George Thornton, who was recruited by former Tide Head Coach Bill Curry and earned All-Southeastern Conference honors in 1990 under the current Alabama staff before going on to the NFL. Gorman is a 6-4, 245-pound tight end for Coach Charles Lee at Montgomery Jeff Davis who was the pre-season number one player in the state by *The Birmingham News*, ranked second by the *Post-Herald* and third by *The Tuscaloosa News*. Gorman is an excellent athlete who plays basketball and baseball. He has been projected as a possible tight end, offensive lineman, defensive end or outside linebacker in college.

Armond Todd is a 6-4, 250-pound defensive end for Coach Tommy Davis at Mobile Shaw. He is projected as a defensive end or linebacker in college. He is also a basketball forward. Armond has some academic work to do, but he is considering Florida, Mississippi State, Tennessee, Alabama and Auburn.

Another one of those familiar names is that of Kelvis White, a 6-3, 260-pound offensive lineman at Courtland. White, who was ranked as the state's 15th best prospect by *The Birmingham News*, is the brother of starting Bama offensive guard Laron White. He plays for his father, Coach Louis White, and works as a defensive lineman as well as on offense.

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Tide Builds On A Father's Dream

by Donna Fromme

Nina Foster, one of the nation's best, picked Alabama for her father

Six years ago, Alabama Head Volleyball Coach Dorothy Reed received a letter that would change her professional life. It wasn't much to look at. Pen on yellow-ruled notebook paper. But the suggest the writer offered would become magic for Reed's University of Alabama volleyball team.

Nina Foster was a high school freshman in Mission Viejo, California, when she wrote to Reed. The letter said it was Foster's dream to one day attend The University and, hopefully, to play volleyball there. It was a dream she shared with her father, Clayton Foster.

Although she lived thousands of miles from

Tuscaloosa, Nina came by her love of The Capstone honestly. Her father was a native of Roanoke, Alabama. He'd also dreamed of one day attending The University, but Alabama was a different place in those days, a state where its non-white citizens were not welcomed at the white schools. Instead, Clayton Foster came to Tuscaloosa and attended Stillman College, a predominantly black school a few miles from The University. Despite the circumstances that prevented him from attending Alabama, he had a love for The Capstone, a love he transmitted to his daughter.

California is the mecca of volleyball, and Reed joins coaches from throughout the nation in scouting that state for talent. On a recruiting trip she was able to see this high school freshman, Nina Foster, play. Reed said later she knew that many other college coaches would soon be in the stands when Foster was in action.

Throughout her prep career, Foster said

that Alabama was her only choice, that she would go to Alabama even if she had to walk on. Still, Reed said later, she refused to truly believe her good fortune until she saw Foster's name on a national letter-of-intent in February, 1994. There was no need for Foster to walk on. She was offered and accepted a full scholarship.

The addition of Foster has turned the Tide's volleyball program around. She is considered as important to volleyball as the signing of Niesa Johnson was to women's basketball, the true "impact" player.

Alabama volleyball was in the middle of the pack prior to last season when Foster began her college career. But with her Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year performance, Foster led Alabama to a 21-14 record and second place in the SEC Western Division. It was Alabama's first winning season since the sport was reinstated under Reed in 1989.

Going into SEC play in late September, the

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Tide had posted its best start ever, a 13-1 mark and three tournament championships. The one loss came in Bama's opening tournament before Foster rejoined the team after spending late summer in Japan as the youngest member of the United States team in the World University Games.

Foster led the nation in blocks in her freshman season and was an All-SEC performer. Two weeks after returning from the World University Games she was named the national player of the week by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, the first Tide player ever to earn the honor.

"Everyone asks me what she's done for this program, and I answer, 'She's done everything,'" Reed said. "Nina is our franchise player. She put us on the map. She's such an outstanding player, but what's even better is that she is every bit as good a person as she is a player. And to have that type of kid in the gym everyday makes our job as coaches so much easier. She is one of the most coachable kids I have ever known.

"Volleyball is a team sport, so she hasn't done it alone. But one player like Nina forces the opponent to key on her and it opens up all kinds of opportunities in our offense. It forces them to lighten up on other areas of our game. Having her has enabled us to strengthen other areas of our game. It gives us a more balanced attack."

Foster is typical of other Alabama players in that she is young. The Tide has only one senior, setter Erin Tenbrunsel. "That's real encouraging, and it was our biggest concern going into the season," Reed said. "We knew we would be physically talented, but we also knew we were young. Experience and leadership are intangibles. You can't teach players those qualities. They have to be acquired. But these kids have already gone beyond our expectations. And one of the neatest things about it was to see that Nina was not here for the pre-season, not here for the first five matches of the season, and still we were able to win four of those five. They were playing like a team and compensating for playing without her. Inserting Nina back into the line-up has raised our level all-around. She lifts her teammates. And she's such a team player that you can insert her anytime and it adds, not disrupts."

Foster has already been a big help to the Tide program off the court, too, Reed said. "Almost every home we go into (recruiting), Nina's name comes up, and I don't bring it up first," Reed said. "I was talking to one of our top prospects on the phone recently and she said she'd heard



Nina Foster is a major success story for herself and for the Alabama volleyball team. Just a sophomore, she is already the most-honored player in Crimson Tide history.

University of Alabama Photo by Kent Gidley

that Nina got national player of the week. We had only learned about it that afternoon, and this prospect knew it almost as soon as we did."

Reed said Foster is a great recruiter, too. "When you bring in prospects, you want them to spend time with your players so they'll get a true picture of the program and what it's like to be at Alabama," Reed said. "I loaded Nina up last year. And every kid she hosted committed to us. In fact, Nina hosted more kids than we had scholarships for, so we couldn't even take all of the prospects she'd talked into coming here. She hosted six kids and we only had five scholarships. She's a real ambassador for our program and The University. She loves Alabama."

October means that SEC competition is heating up, and for the first time in recent history Alabama could be in the title hunt. The Tide was picked to finish second in the SEC West in pre-season balloting by the coaches.

"I feel like it's finally coming together," Reed said. "Patience is a virtue, but I don't know a lot of coaches, myself included, who have a lot of patience when it comes to

building your dream program. We've had to put in our time. We had to build a whole program, and it was a slower process than we'd have liked. But it's actually come at a realistic pace. Time is taking its course and we're finally moving into chapter two.

"We knew if we kept working hard and believing, things would come together, and they are. We know we still have a ways to go. We're still working as hard as we did from the start."

Unfortunately, there is sadness involved in this success story. In many respects the current success of Alabama volleyball is because of Clayton Foster, who had a dream for his daughter to attend The University he could not. In March, 1994, as Nina was preparing to go to school she found her father unconscious in their kitchen. He'd suffered a massive stroke that proved fatal. Clayton had planned to move to Alabama with his daughter. Nina, whose mother has not been a part of her life since her infancy, was alone.

"We had a dream," Nina said of her decision to move to Alabama. "It would be a huge disappointment if I didn't carry out my part."

Tide Squads Could Be Contenders

by Louise Ford

Both teams are ranked and hope to repeat 1994's top 20 national finishes

The 1995 Alabama men's and women's cross country teams have some role models from recent years. More than that, Head Coach David Troy may have the talent to replicate the successes of some of those earlier Tide harrier squads.

Last year the women placed second and the men third in the Southeastern Conference Championships. Two weeks later the men qualified for the NCAA Championships with a victory in the District III championship meet, while the women gained a berth in the NCAA Championships with a fourth place district showing. Both teams finished among the nation's top 20, the women 14th and the men 20th.

The SEC is once again among the nation's strongest conference's in cross country, and, again this year, the Crimson Tide is projected to be among the contenders at the SEC meet. Both squads have a core group of talent returning and will look to some veterans and newcomers to fill in the remaining places. The women have finished in the top four in the conference every year and the men have been among the top five in the SEC seven of the past ten years. The goals of both teams are to challenge for the SEC titles and to qualify for the NCAA Championships in Ames, Iowa, November 20.

The men's team returns all but one member of its 1994 squad, which means this year's team should be in a position for the SEC title, repeat as district champion, and improve its finish at the national championships. "I feel that we are talented enough to do all these things," Troy said. The Bama head coach said that in men's competition the teams to watch in the SEC would be Arkansas and Tennessee, along with Alabama. The conference championship meet is October 30 at Ole Miss.

Leader of the Alabama pack is sophomore Faizal Emamaullee. He finished seventh at the 1994 SEC Championship meet and was all-district with a 21st place finish. "Faizal will be right in there with the leaders at all of our meets," Troy said. "He had a great track season last year and has really matured. I expect him to have a very good year." So far Emamaullee hasn't disappointed, finishing first in (and leading Bama to the championship of) the Tulane Invitational. He also finished first in the Tide's own Crimson Classic, a non-scoring



Faizal Emamaullee had a very good season in 1994 and has shown improvement in 1995. He is the leader of the Alabama men's cross country team.

University of Alabama Photo by Kent Gidley meet in which the first five finishers were Bama runners.

Running two, three and four for the Tide (in no particular order) are Sam Barall, Nick Middleton and Brian Hesson. Barall is the only senior and has steadily improved over the last three years. All three of these men could challenge for a place among the All-SEC and All-District finishers.

Jody Spangler competed in three cross country meets last year and is a much improved distance runner after a solid track season. He trained diligently over the summer and will be among the Tide's top seven.

Junior Preston Hill has been in the Tide's top seven the last two years. He is dependable and consistent and will fight for his position in the top seven. Wade Beroset ran as Alabama's eighth man two years ago. He was redshirted last year due to injuries.

The Tide has three top distance runners entering the program this year and each will push the veterans for a place in the top seven competitors.

Dean Fulmer placed sixth nationally at the FootLocker National and Tim Broe was 10th at the same national elite race. Fulmer qualified for the U.S. Pan Am junior team which competed in Santiago, Chile, in early

September. He was the nation's top high schooler in the 5,000 meters. Tim Broe is a two-time Illinois cross country state champion and a two-time FootLocker finalist.

John Williamson, a product of Tuscaloosa Central High School (and the son of Bama Head Track and Field Coach Doug Williamson), will also contend for a spot in the top seven. He has captured eight state titles in his four years at Central.

The Crimson Tide women's team is a young one. Sophomore Jessica Fry will be the pillar to build around. The core group of runners includes only two seniors.

Fry, the runner-up at the 1994 SEC Championships, had a stellar indoor track season before being sidelined in the spring with a knee ailment. She earned All-America honors with a fourth place finish in the 5,000 meters at the NCAA Championships after finishing second in the 5,000 at the SEC Championships. In her last race before being sidelined with the knee problem, Fry finished 19th at the World Junior Cross Country meet.

Elisa Currins, one of only two seniors on the team, is a returning All-SEC runner from last year. She will be called on to provide the team with leadership and Troy feels she is capable of repeating as an All-SEC performer. She and sophomore Carrie Garritson will be two of Alabama's key support cast in the team makeup.

Garritson narrowly missed receiving All-SEC recognition last year. She followed up a strong cross country season with an excellent track season last year. The year of experience will be a valuable asset for her.

Joanne Bolton was redshirted in cross country last year, but was an SEC indoor 5,000 meter scorer. She ran a 36 minute 10K before missing the rest of the outdoor season with a groin injury. She began training in April and had a successful summer program. Troy is hopeful that Bolton will emerge as a surprise talent in the top seven for the Tide.

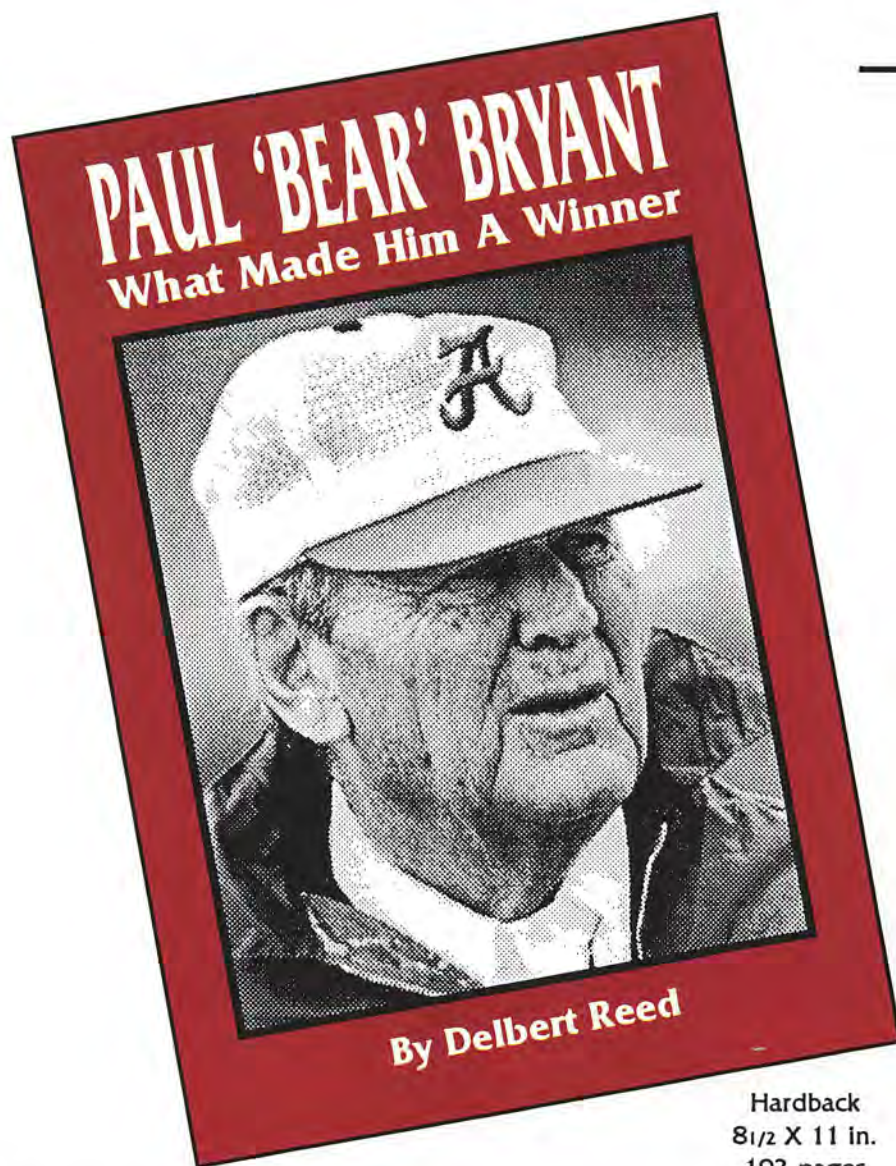
A lack of depth leaves the number five spot very "suspect," in Troy's mind. Half milers Donna Cargill or Caroline Kerr could fill this spot. Cargill is coming off her finest track season with a second place finish in the 800 meters at the outdoor SEC Championship. Kerr has shown respectable finishes in cross country events in the past and her training this summer could put her in a position to help the team this fall.

A couple of other names to look for this season are Sharon Mavar and Ashley Patrick. Mavar did not compete in cross country last year, but improved her times during the 1995 track season and Troy feels she can be one of the top seven for the team this fall. Ashley Patrick is a solid, dependable performer and placed among Alabama's top five at the SEC, District and NCAA championships.

Alabama's 1995 Football Opponents' Schedules

Team	Sept. 2	Sept. 9	Sept. 16	Sept. 23	Sept. 30	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 28	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25
VANDERBILT Commodores Nashville, Tenn.	ALABAMA 25-33		@ Notre Dame 0-41	TCU 3-16	Arkansas		Georgia	@ South Carolina	@ Ole Miss	Kentucky	Louisiana Tech	@ Florida	@ Tennessee
SOUTHERN MISS Golden Eagles Hattiesburg, Miss.	Northern Illinois 45-13	@ ALABAMA (Birmingham) 20-24	@ Utah St. 24-21	@ Indiana 26-27	Tulane	Louisville	@ Cincinnati		East Carolina	@ Tennessee	@ Memphis	@ Southwest Louisiana	
ARKANSAS Razorbacks Fayetteville, Ark.	@ SMU 14-17	South Carolina 51-21	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 20-19	Memphis @ Little Rock 27-20	@ Vanderbilt	Tennessee	Ole Miss @ Memphis		Auburn	Mississippi State	Southwest Louisiana		@ LSU
GEORGIA Bulldogs Athens, Ga.	South Carolina 42-23	@ Tennessee 27-30	New Mexico State 40-13	Ole Miss 10-18	ALABAMA	@ Clemson	@ Vanderbilt	Kentucky	Florida		Auburn		Nov. 23 @ Georgia Tech
NORTH CAROLINA STATE Wolfpack Raleigh, N.C.	Aug. 31 Marshall 33-16	Virginia 24-29	@ FSU 17-77	Baylor 0-14	Clemson	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 2-30 CDT		@ Duke		Maryland	@ Georgia Tech	@ Wake Forest	Nov. 24 North Carolina
TENNESSEE Volunteers Knoxville, Tenn.	East Carolina 27-7	Georgia 30-27	@ Florida 37-62	Mississippi State 52-14	Oklahoma State	@ Arkansas	@ ALABAMA (Birmingham)		South Carolina	Southern Miss		@ Kentucky	Vanderbilt
OLE MISS Rebels Oxford, Miss.	@ Auburn 13-46	Indiana State 56-10		Georgia 18-10	@ Florida	Tulane	Arkansas @ Memphis	ALABAMA 2 CDT	Vanderbilt	@ Memphis	@ LSU		@ Mississippi State
NORTH TEXAS Eagles Denton, Texas	@ Missouri 7-28	Kansas @ Irving 10-27	Oregon State 30-27	@ Oklahoma 10-51		@ Nevada-Reno	UAB	@ LSU	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 2-30 CDT	@ UNLV	Idaho State	@ Louisville	
LSU Fighting Tigers Baton Rouge, La.	@ Texas A&M 17-33	@ Mississippi State 34-16	Auburn 12-6	Rice 52-7	@ South Carolina	Florida	@ Kentucky	North Texas		@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa)	Ole Miss		Arkansas
MISSISSIPPI STATE Bulldogs Starkville, Miss.	Memphis 28-18	LSU 16-34	Baylor 30-21	@ Tennessee 14-52	Northwest Louisiana	Nov. 5 @ Auburn	South Carolina		Kentucky	Arkansas @ Little Rock	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa)		Ole Miss
AUBURN Tigers Auburn, Ala.	Ole Miss 46-13	Chattanooga 76-10	@ LSU 6-12		@ Kentucky	Nov. 5 Mississippi State	Florida	Western Michigan	Arkansas @ Little Rock	Northwest Louisiana	@ Georgia	ALABAMA	

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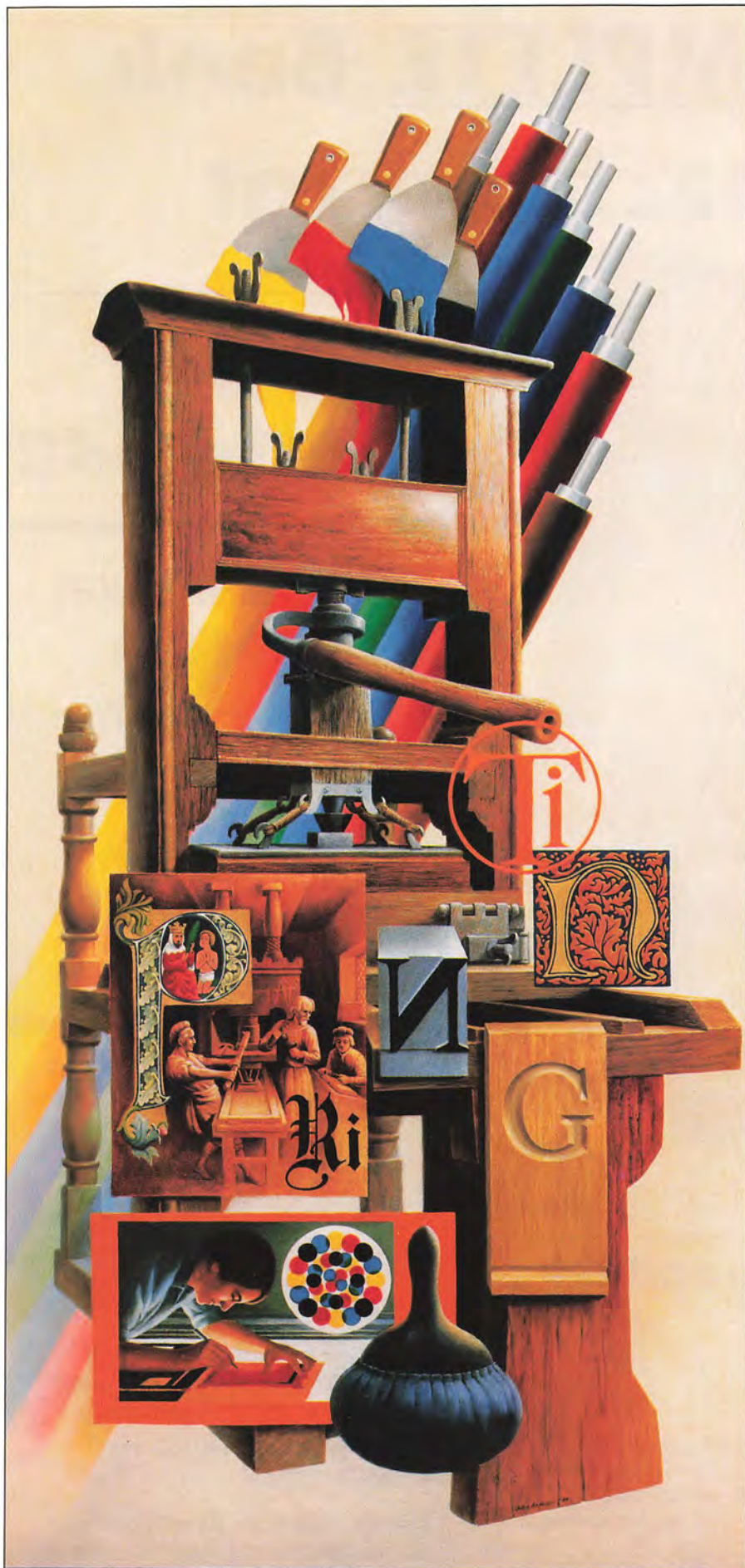
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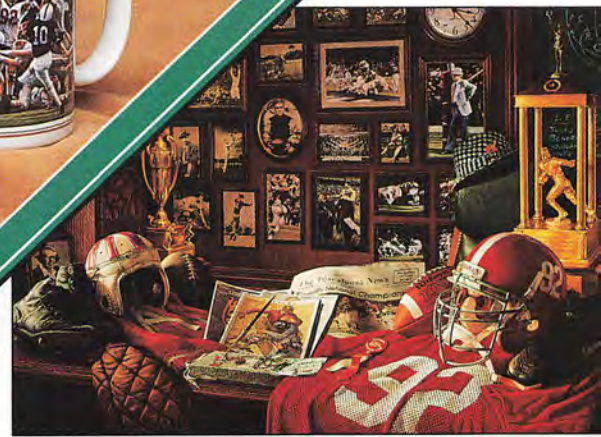
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